



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Prowler Arrested After Foot Pursuit

**SANTA BARBARA, CA – April 2, 2012**

On April 1, 2012, at 2:19 a.m., Officer Bruno Peterson was on patrol and was investigating the source of a loud music complaint in the vicinity of 205 W. Quinto Street. While waiting for another officer to arrive before making contact with residents at that location, Officer Peterson observed a suspicious subject standing near the southeast corner of the house, close to a hedge of bushes, peering into a window of the occupied dwelling. The subject was in a dark, secluded area of the private property and was wearing dark clothing. Officer Peterson observed the subject, later identified as Miguel Ramirez-Hernandez, age 27, for several seconds and saw him moving his head up, down, and side to side as if he was trying to obtain a good view through the blinds covering the window. Officer Peterson developed a reasonable suspicion that Ramirez-Hernandez was in violation of Penal Code section 647(i), peeping while prowling, and attempted to contact him.

Ramirez-Hernandez was surprised when contacted by Officer Peterson. He walked backward a few steps and then turned and fled from the scene despite Officer Peterson's commands to stop. Ramirez-Hernandez ran onto Quinto Street and then north on 2500 De La Vina Street, through the apartment complex at 2515 De La Vina Street, and north in the alley to the rear of the complex where he tripped and fell. There Officer Peterson held Ramirez-Hernandez at Taser-point until other officers arrived and assisted in taking Ramirez-Hernandez into custody.

The residents of the rear of 205 W. Quinto Street do not know Ramirez-Hernandez and advised that he had no lawful business on their property. At the time of his arrest Ramirez-Hernandez had a flat-head screwdriver in his pocket that he stated he carried for personal protection. He was booked at Santa Barbara County Jail for the felony possession of a concealed dirk or dagger, and the misdemeanors of peeping while prowling and resisting or delaying a peace officer. His bail was \$20,000.00.



Photo of Miguel Ramirez-Hernandez provided by the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department.

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